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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

STATE MACHINE CENTER  
BEING BUILT IN LUBASZCZ

TO BE FINISHED BY MAY 1950 -- Ziemia Pomorska, No 337, 8 Dec 49

State Machine Center Number 25, which is being built in Lubaszcz, Wyrzyski Powiat, Pomorze Wojewodztwo, is to be finished by May 1950. The construction work is being done by the Rural Building Cooperative. The property was formerly a large estate with buildings, large grounds suitable for tractors, and connection with a sugar-mill railroad. The center will consist of 14 buildings: repair shops, a 50-tractor garage, silos for fuel storage, and housing accommodations for 200 tractor operators.

The center, operating at present with only 12 tractors, has already done the fall and winter plowing, and the tractors are now being used to transport brick and other building materials for new construction.

There are 23 horses at the center, but the soil is very heavy and hard to work. Even the Czech Zetors, although good, are not adequate. The Ursus, a Polish tractor, is the best for this type soil. There are only four Ursus tractors at the Center at present, but the number will be increased to 50.

The Machine Center in Lubaszcz will service the farms within a radius of 18 kilometers: cooperative villages, state farms, and small farms. The machines will plow, sow, harvest, thresh, and perform other farming operations. The center will be equipped with trained operators whose training will be continually supplemented with special courses.

The personnel especially the administrative personnel, is being very carefully selected. Not only the professional ability of the applicants, but also their political background are taken into consideration. The center will promote not only mechanized farming in Pomorze, but also political consciousness.

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## 900 MILLION ZLOTYS FOR FERTILIZER LOANS -- Zielony Sztandar, No 4, 25 Dec 49

The State Agricultural Bank assigned 900 million zlotys in December 1949 for loans to small-and-medium-size farmholders for the purchase of artificial fertilizers for spring sowing.

Peasants will receive the loans from Community Credit Unions, or from the local branches of the bank. Applications for loans must be submitted to the village branch of Peasants' Self-Help by 1 March 1950 (in the Western Territories by 15 April 1950).

The application will be forwarded to the Community Credit Union, which, in turn, will authorize the local rural cooperative to supply the applicant with fertilizers. The recipient of a loan will pay 6.5 percent interest.

To facilitate financing operations and timely deliveries, the State Agricultural Bank will provide rural cooperatives with working capital amounting to 4 million zlotys.

## HERBS TO BRING FOREIGN EXCHANGE -- Ziemia Pomorska, No 338, 9 Dec 49

In the Six-Year Plan, the Ministry of the Farm and Food Industries plans to exploit herbs for export to secure badly needed foreign exchange.

Herborization is a relatively new field in the Polish economy and as yet little appreciated. State Rural Cooperatives, which employ trained help in other fields, are completely ignoring the problems of herb cultivation.

Purchasing had been handled by the Central Office of Peasants' Self-Help Rural Cooperative until 1 May 1949, at which time the State Herborization Bureau was formed, with branches throughout Poland. The Pomorze Branch has 19 offices in powiat cities, but only 14 are active and only four have had satisfactory results. In Chelmo and Torun, exclusively camomile areas, nothing has been produced to relieve the shortage.

The Pomorze Branch in Bydgoszcz has a permanent information and inspection staff, and is the coordinating agency for purchasing, planting, and distribution. The large processing and packaging warehouses on Mennica Street are still inadequate. Sorting and classification are under the supervision of pharmacists, botanists, agronomists, and physicians. There is only one drying plant in Pomorze, in Gluchowo near Chelmza.

There is a shortage of camomile, dandelion roots, lamnium album, poplar buds, and many other herbs. Excessive rains during the flowering period and a shortage of harvesters are responsible for the poor camomile crop this year.

About 400 hectares have been designated for the cultivation of 52 varieties of herbs in 1950 and a 76-million-zloty crop has been put under contract. Considering that the yield from one hectare of valerian is 1,500 kilograms (worth 675,000 zlotys), it is apparent that cultivation of medicinal herbs is very profitable.

## REPAIR FARM MACHINES FOR SOWING SEASON -- Zielony Sztandar, No 4, 25 Dec 49

State and cooperative machine centers have satisfactorily fulfilled their tasks and they have helped raise the level of Poland's agriculture.

The winter season is as important for machine centers as the actual farming season. Early in December, the machine centers and the repair shops of TOR (Technical Farm Services) began to repair tractors and farm machines. Conferences had been previously held at the State Farm Enterprises, state and cooperative machine

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centers, and at TOR repair shops, to discuss proper maintenance of farm equipment during the winter season. This was also the subject of a national conference held in Poznan.

By 31 December 1949, the repair shops of TOR must take care of 40 percent of the total number of tractors due for overhauling. An additional 40 percent must be repaired in January 1950, and the balance in February 1950. All farm machines must be repaired by 15 March 1950 and ready for farm work.

URSUS PLANTS COMPLETES PLAN -- Wiadomosci Polskie, No 45, 13 Nov 49

The Ursus Plants in Warsaw recently completed the Three-Year Plan with the assembly of the 3,300th tractor, entirely of domestic construction. The Ursus workers pledged an additional 480 tractors by the end of the year.

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